

AGENDA: August 6, 2002

2A

CATEGORY: Presentation

DEPT.: Community Development

TITLE: Computer History Museum

RECOMMENDATION

That Council hear a presentation regarding the Computer History Museum.

BACKGROUND

Recently, representatives of the Computer History Museum met with City staff to discuss the possibility of the museum acquiring the former Silicon Graphics, Inc. (SGI) entryway building at 1401 North Shoreline Boulevard. They informed staff that they have entered into a Letter of Intent (LOI) with the property owners, Carlyle Real Estate, to explore the possibility of acquiring the site.

The museum is currently located at NASA/Ames and as part of the redevelopment plan for NASA, the museum was planning to enter a long-term ground lease in the NASA Research Park and build a 100,000+ square foot museum. Given the current real estate market with the high vacancy rate, it created new opportunities for the museum to consider, including the possibility of buying a building that would be suitable and meet their needs for a museum.

The building located at 1401 Shoreline Boulevard is approximately 117,000 square feet, was built in 1994 and was occupied by SGI up until 2000. The building has distinguished architectural features, character and visibility that make it a suitable site for the Computer History Museum. The site is also appropriate because it is the entryway to Mountain View's North Bayshore Area that is the heart of the Silicon Valley.

The zoning for this site is T-North Bayshore Precise Plan. Museum use is considered a provisional use and will require a Conditional Use Permit from the City. Preliminary plans for this museum require very little modification to the exterior. The Computer History Museum Director and Board have requested an opportunity to make an informational presentation to City Council regarding this project.

AGENDA: August 6, 2002

PAGE: 2

PUBLIC NOTICING—Agenda posting.

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